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A

SERMON

WILL BE PREACHED

AT HERTINGFORDBURY,

On the 11th of OCTOBER, 1795,

FOR THE BENEFIT OF

THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS,

Of that Pariſh,

BY THE RIGHT REVEREND FATHER IN GOD, SPENCER, LORD BISHOP OF *PETERBOROUGH.*

Prayers to begin at Eleven o'Clock.

THE Parents of the Sunday School Children are allowed, by one branch of this Charity, to purchaſe Clothing for ſuch Children as regularly attend the Sunday Schools, with an Allowance of one quarter in the price; by which Means they are enabled to pay for the Schooling of one or two Children at the Day School, and for no greater Expence than they muſt otherwiſe be at merely for their Clothing:* The Children alſo making their own things in the Schools of Induſtry, ſtill reduces the Price, whilſt, at the ſame time they are furniſhed with the Materials for Inſtruction.

By this Plan the Parents have certainly been taught the habit of Œconomy, and the value of Induſtry, by being led to make the beſt uſe of every little Sum of Money, which however ſmall, by that means they really feel the benefit of. Whereas, without ſuch an Opportunity of turning their ſmall Savings to Account, they probably would have appeared too trifling to go to market with; and nothing can more ſtrongly teſtify the great utility of this part of the Plan, than the evident improvement every Year in the appearance of the Children, who with this ſmall Aſſiſtance are thoroughly well clothed by the Induſtry of their Parents; for the Benefactors are aſſured, that it is one particular Rule of the Charity not to furniſh any Clothing *gratis*, (except for occaſional Rewards to ſome of the Scholars:) Experience having proved that giving a Spur to Induſtry is a real kindneſs, whilſt Donations, too often, act as a Temptation to Idleneſs.

The Attention of the Benefactors is drawn to this circumſtance, as the original ragged appearance of the Children is certainly in the recollection of moſt of thoſe who have ſo kindly perſevered in their annual Contributions. It can not therefore but be a gratifying reward to their liberality, to ſee ſo large a number of children ſupplied by their means with the comfort of cheap and decent Clothing, as well as Inſtruction, and to know that many of them have already been enabled to get their own Livelihood, and taught to do their Duty in Life. Theſe pleaſing reflections cannot fail to open the ſame ſources of Benevolence to ſupport the continuation of the Plan for the enſuing Year, WHEN IT IS PROPOSED, SHOULD THE COLLECTION ALLOW OF IT, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE EXTREME DEARNESS OF EVERY ARTICLE OF PROVISION, &C. FOR THE LAST YEAR, AND EVEN AT PRESENT, TO ALLOW THE PARENTS HALF THE VALUE IN THE PURCHASE OF THE CLOTHING INSTEAD OF A QUARTER, FOR ONE TWELVEMONTH, VIZ. FROM OCTOBER 1795, TO OCTOBER 1796.

Since the Eſtabliſhment of theſe Schools in October 1787, there have been admitted 114 Girls and 98 Boys, of whom 91 Girls and 69 Boys have belonged to the Day School or School of Induſtry. The Number at the Sunday Schools at this time conſiſts of 57 Girls and 47 Boys; of which, 45 Girls and 33 Boys attend the Day Schools. Moſt of the reſt have been placed out Apprentices, or in creditable ſervices; and ſome remain at home uſeful in their own families, till proper opportunities offer for their going out to Service.

N. B. Since the Charity Sermon laſt year there have been admitted 6 Boys and 10 Girls.

Theſe Schools are ſupported by an Annual Subſcription collected in October, and by the Donations at the Charity Sermon.

* For inſtance, the ſaving one ſhilling in four, in a pair of Shoes, will pay for one Month's Schooling, at three-pence a week.

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